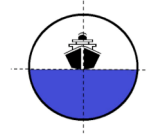




# UP PERISCOPE



***Providing Information about the U. S. Submarine Force***

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## Submarine North Carolina (SSN 777) Keel Laid

By Chief Journalist (SW/AW) Mark O. Piggott, COMNAVSUBFOR Public Affairs

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (NNS) -- The keel was laid and authenticated for the newest Virginia-class submarine, North Carolina (SSN 777), May 22, at Northrop Grumman Newport News shipyard.

Linda Bowman, wife of Adm. Frank L. "Skip" Bowman, director, Naval Nuclear Reactors, is the boat's sponsor. Her initials were welded onto a metal plate that will be affixed in the submarine's auxiliary machinery room (AMR).

"I leave not only my initials here, but along with my heart, a lifetime full of wonderful Navy memories," Linda said. "For the submarine North Carolina, my hope is that she will sail in peace to keep us free. My assurance is that she will always be ready to defend that freedom whenever necessary."

The submarine will be the fourth ship of the U.S. Navy to bear the name North Carolina. The first North Carolina was a 74-gun ship-of-the-line that served from 1820 to 1836. The second North Carolina (ACR 12) was a Tennessee-class armored cruiser that was also built at the Newport News shipyard and served from 1908 to 1921. The third North Carolina (BB 55) was the first of the Navy's modern battleships, serving from 1940 to 1947, earning 12 battle stars for service during World War II. The battleship now serves in Wilmington, N.C., as a memorial for all North Carolinians killed in World War II.

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole of North Carolina was the guest speaker at the keel laying and authentication ceremony. She thanked the shipbuilders for their efforts in the global war on terrorism by helping to maintain our fleet readiness.

July 2004

"The first of those North Carolina ships to be built in Newport News had its keel laid nearly 100 years ago in 1905, and it was constructed in just a year and a half," Dole said. "This submarine will be completed in 2007."

"I look forward to the day this North Carolina namesake sets out on its course to protect our country. To all of you who are a part of the massive effort to finish its construction, thank you for your commitment to the United States of America and our armed forces."

The Virginia class will provide the Navy with the capabilities it requires to maintain the nation's undersea supremacy well into the 21st century. This next-generation attack submarine will have improved stealth and sophisticated surveillance capabilities, and special warfare enhancements that will enable it to meet the Navy's multi-mission requirements.

"A keel is defined as 'the backbone of a vessel' from which rises the frames or ribs, the stern and the sternpost," said Tom Schievelbein, president, Northrop Grumman Newport News. "Yet I would argue that the backbone of a ship is made from much more than just steel."

"It's also a reflection of the men and women who build the ship and the officers and crew who will sail her," he continued. "The North Carolina, when delivered to the U.S. Navy, will help preserve democracy and protect freedom. These are higher purposes, indeed." R



## Status of the Force

(Updated 7/12/04)

35 Submarines underway

13 Submarines on deployment



## USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) Earns Arleigh Burke Award

By Journalist 3rd Class Corwin M. Colbert, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- The crew of USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) were presented the U.S. Pacific Fleet 2003 Arleigh Burke Award June 22.

The award is given to the most improved ship, submarine, or aviation squadron in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets.

Adm. Walter Doran, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, presented the award to the crew during an award ceremony held at the Pearl Harbor Naval Station submarine pier.

"This is a remarkable achievement. No matter where you go or what you do, you can look back and remember you were a part of USS Cheyenne, and you should be proud," said Doran.

Although Cmdr. Charles Doty, former commanding officer of Cheyenne, and Command Master Chief Ron Spake, former Chief of the Boat, recently changed commands, they recalled the outstanding achievements of the whole crew.

"When I found out that Cheyenne was getting the award, I thought it was huge. During my time on board, the blue shirts had the willingness and effort to get the job done," said Doty. "They always jumped to the next milestone."

"One of the biggest improvements was retention. We had 100 percent retention and zero percent attrition. This contributed to the command atmosphere of hard work and taking care of each other," added Doty.

"The credit for the Arleigh Burke Award goes to the junior officers, chief petty officers and blue shirts carrying out the orders and maintaining the standards set by the senior leadership on a day-to-day basis," said Spake. "I am proud to have served with such a fantastic crew. It truly was the most rewarding job I have ever had."

For related news, visit the Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Navy NewsStand page at [www.news.navy.mil/local/subpac](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/subpac). R

## **From the Navy News Link...**

### **Hawaii Governor to be PCU Hawaii's Sponsor**

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England asked Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle in June to sponsor the nation's third Virginia-class fast-attack submarine, PCU Hawaii (SSN 776). The submarine, being built at General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton, Conn., is 63 percent complete and scheduled to enter the fleet in 2007.

### **PCU Jimmy Carter Christened at Electric Boat**

GROTON, Conn. (NNS) -- With a swing of the Korbel and a blessing for "all who sail in her," Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter christened PCU Jimmy Carter (SSN 23) at General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard here June 5. Mrs. Carter, Former President Jimmy Carter, their daughter Amy and a crowd of more than 4,500, came to bear witness to the christening of the third and last Seawolf-class submarine.

## **From Navy/Marine Corps News...**

### **Navy Welcomes Newest Submarine**

### **Role of the Submariner has changed since the Cold War days**

### **USS Albany operating in Persian Gulf**



**PEARL HARBOR, HI** -- The Japanese submarine JDS Narushio (SS 595) prepares to moor at one of the Pearl Harbor Naval Station submarine piers on June 22. JDS Narushio is participating in the 2004 RIMPAC exercise.  
(Photo by JO3 Corwin Colbert)

## **Commander, Naval Submarine Forces**

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